

Arts in the Parks

Starve Hollow State Recreation Area

Property Profile

Website: <http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/4819.htm>

Key Messages/Stories:

- Indiana's first state recreation area owned by the Division of Forestry.
- The 146 acre lake whose construction started in 1935 by CCC workers from Freetown was completed and filled by 1938. It was originally used for irrigation for the tree nursery and later as a water source for the fish hatchery. The beach was developed and use began in 1959 with the area becoming an official state recreation area in 1962.
- Logging is performed on the non recreation part of the property. This could be a source of wood/bark from tops and trees not taken by the logger. Most of the logging is performed in the winter months.
- Hunting is allowed in the non recreation area.
- Forestry properties are multiple use meaning timber management, recreation, and wildlife management. Gathering of most plant material is also allowed.
- Cultural History of the Area – Farming community and known for its watermelon production.
- Natural Beauty – The area has very scenic views from the hiking trails. The trails take you through flat wetlands and groves of bald cypress trees, cross creeks, rise up to ridge tops with very scenic views of the surrounding landscape and into valleys. Deep woods and wildlife are abundant.

Top Five things to do:

- Play at the beach and swim.
- Fish and rent boats.
- Tour the nature center and attend programs.
- Hike trails
- Ride bicycles



Lodging: Full hookup campsites, electric campsites (some by the lake), primitive camping, and rent a cabins.

General Visitor Profile: campers (weekend and weeklong); day users for picnics, swimming/beach use, hiking, boating, visiting the nature center, school groups mainly in spring, adult volunteers that are usually camping, and bicyclers.

Potential art venues:

- Small stage next to nature center that has electricity and light.
- Large open field next to nature center and stage
- Two open sided shelter houses that could seat around 30.
- Program room in nature center that could hold about 25 with no tables.

Visitation in FY2014: to the nature center is about 8000, not able to get good idea on property visitation.

Nearby Communities: Brownstown, Vallonia, Medora, Freetown, Seymour and Salem.

Please email questions to Artsintheparks@dnr.IN.gov.

